

Senate Resolution 7 - Introduced

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

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RAGAN, HAMERLINCK, BACON, KIBBIE, GRONSTAL,
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1 A Resolution urging the nullification of rules adopted
2 by the United States Environmental Protection
3 Agency relating to national emissions standards for
4 hazardous air pollutants for reciprocating internal
5 combustion engines.

6 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental
7 Protection Agency in March 2000 finalized national
8 emissions standards for hazardous air pollutants for
9 reciprocating internal combustion engines which are to
10 take effect in May 2013; and

11 WHEREAS, the rules would have a devastating impact
12 on Iowa's municipal utilities due to the fact that the
13 municipal utilities collectively operate 287 diesel
14 electric generators with a combined nameplate capacity
15 of 548 megawatts; and

16 WHEREAS, these rules impact 68 utilities that serve
17 a total of 106,000 customers with an average of 1,560
18 customer meters per utility; and

19 WHEREAS, Iowa's municipal electric utilities
20 operate diesel generators both to be able to keep the
21 lights on when transmissions lines are downed by ice,
22 wind, floods, or other natural disasters or man-made
23 emergencies, and to meet the obligation to own or buy
24 reserve capacity; and

1 WHEREAS, the rules allow a municipal electric
2 utility to run diesel generators in an emergency, but
3 effectively take away the ability of a small community
4 to afford them by prohibiting the receipt of payment or
5 credit for reserve capacity; and

6 WHEREAS, the diesel generators run only a few hours
7 a year, with averages ranging from 14 to 46 hours
8 depending on power supply arrangements; and

9 WHEREAS, the application of the rules requires that
10 each of these engines either be retrofit, replaced,
11 or removed, resulting in huge cost increases to the
12 citizen owners of these utilities in the form of rate
13 increases and lost capacity; and

14 WHEREAS, the cost estimate if all 287 diesel
15 generators were to be retrofit for compliance over a
16 10-year period is \$36 million, which is an average
17 cost of \$29.24 per month per customer, and such cost
18 estimates would increase beyond this amount if diesel
19 generators are replaced or taken out of service; NOW
20 THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the United States
22 Environmental Protection Agency is urged to rescind
23 the national emissions standards for hazardous air
24 pollutants for reciprocating internal combustion
25 engines; and

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Iowa's Congressional
27 delegation is urged to take action to nullify the
28 rules; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the
30 Senate shall forward a copy of this resolution to

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1 the Administrator of the United States Environmental
2 Protection Agency and all members of Iowa's
3 Congressional delegation.